

Kentucky e-Health Network Board

August 6, 2008

Minutes

Meeting No. 26

Capitol Annex – Room 129

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Board Members in Attendance:

Dr. Carol Steltenkamp, Co-Chair – University of Kentucky
Dr. Larry Cook, Co-Chair – University of Louisville
Jim Barnhart – Commonwealth Office of Technology
Dr. Ford Brewer – Associated Industries of Kentucky
David Bolt – Physician Practice Managers
John Burkholder, Deputy Commissioner - Kentucky Department of Insurance
Murray Clark – Kentucky Hospital Association
Deborah Clayton – Kentucky Department of Commercialization and Innovation
Senator Julie Denton – Senate
Dr. William Hacker, Commissioner - Kentucky Department of Public Health
Betsy Johnson - Kentucky Department of Medicaid Services
Bruce Klockars – Kentucky Hospital Association & Rural Hospitals
Linda Linville, Proxy for Interim Council President Dr. Richard Crofts - Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
Randy McCleese, Proxy for Dr. Kimberly Williams – Kentucky Medical Association
Janna Meek, Proxy for Jack Lord – Health Insurance Business Headquartered in Kentucky
Larry Mott - Business with Large Scale e-Strategy & Computer Information Technology
Rep. Bob DeWeese – House of Representatives
Senator Katie Stine – Senate President Pro Tem

Others Present:

Steve Nunn, Deputy Secretary - Cabinet for Health & Family Services

Absent:

Barbara Haunz Asher – Citizen at Large
Dr. David Bensema – Kentucky Medical Association
Janie Miller, Secretary - Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Rep. Tommy Thompson – House of Representatives

Staff:

Barbara Baker, Policy Advisor
Eric Duncan, Policy Advisor
Laura Cole, Project Manager
April Smith, Project Manager
Donna Venio, Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Carol Steltenkamp, Co-Chair.

Welcome and Introductions

Board members were asked to provide introductions. Deborah Clayton stated that the Economic Development Committee met this morning on identifying next steps in assisting the Board in the development of the e-health network. Dr. Bill Hacker participated in a one-day meeting on Substance Abuse to speak about the KASPER program, which is a model program throughout the country. Over 1,000 requests per day are currently being received from physicians requesting information on patient prescriptions for controlled substances.

Review and Approval of July Board Minutes

David Bolt moved to approve the July board minutes; John Burkholder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Medicaid Transformation Grant Update

Barbara Baker stated that staff continues to work on a plan for the Medicaid Transformation Grant funding and will be shared with the Board in the near future.

Healthcare Infrastructure Authority Update

The Authority hosted a Strategic Planning Retreat on July 10 where participants updated the vision, mission statement and goals for e-health for the state of Kentucky. Judah Thornewill reported on the findings of the retreat.

Updated Vision - Healthier Kentuckians through Information Exchange

Branding - New Generation Healthcare™

Mission - The Kentucky e-Health Network, a collaboration of the Kentucky e-Health Network Board, Kentucky e-Health Corporation, and Kentucky Healthcare Infrastructure Authority, will support statewide adoption of health information technology and interoperable health information exchange to enhance the health of all citizens

Goals/Activities Include:

- Engendering a culture of trust, collaboration and shared values among all healthcare stakeholders;
- Developing financially sustainable business model(s);
- Developing interoperability standards for HIT and HIE in the state;
- Services to measurably improve quality of care;
- Services to measurably improve affordability of care;
- Providing individuals access to their health records;
- Protecting privacy, safety and security of information for consumers and providers;
- Promoting population health; and,
- Facilitating health research.

To review the entire presentation, visit the e-health website at <http://ehealth.ky.gov>.

A concern of the Board was that the makeup of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee was large and appeared to be somewhat duplicative of the Board membership. Senator Katie Stine discussed Tennessee's approach for e-health that was published in *Healthcare News*. The Economic Development Committee had a presentation from Tennessee representatives and Sheri Rose from AT&T. Tennessee had \$14M funded through the legislature to move forward on their initiative. At the end of October they will have 200 physician practices online sharing messages, doing file transfers, e-prescribing and medication histories. They are currently in the Collaborative Zone exchanging data. The Competitive Zone is their next step whereby vendors will be selected for e-prescribing.

HIT Assessment for the Commonwealth Final Report

Carol Ireson and Martha Riddell from the University of Kentucky presented the final report of the HIT Assessment for the Commonwealth. The goal of the study was to provide baseline information to assist in the development of health information exchanges in Kentucky.

The objectives of the HIT adoption assessment were to identify:

- Which providers across Kentucky are using health information technology
- What technology is used
- For what purposes the technology is used; i.e., electronic billing, electronic medical records, communications with other providers, and/or communication with patients
- Perceived benefits of HIT

- Barriers to HIT adoption
- What providers need to increase their use of health information technology
- How Kentucky should move forward to an electronic health information environment

Cross-sectional study included: mailing surveys to a sample of licensed physicians practicing in Kentucky; electronic surveys of pharmacists, hospitals, home health agencies, hospices, long term care facilities, optometrists, podiatrists, mental health programs, KPCA members, medical group practice managers, and health departments; and face-to-face stakeholder interviews with selected members of the health care providers.

The findings included:

- 555 responses to printed surveys which accounted for 1571 physicians (responses included the number of physicians in each practice)
- 683 physicians have electronic health records (EHR)
- 864 physicians do not have an EHR
- 47 practices from Kentucky Medical Group Management Association (KMGMA) responded representing 1065 physicians
- 29 practices representing 322 physicians have an EHR
- 18 practices representing 763 physicians do not have an EHR
- 19 primary care centers responded representing 542 physicians (450 physicians at 1 practice site)
- 3 dentist offices responded
- 62 physicians (53%) have an EHR
- 499 physicians do not have an EHR; 450 of those are in the process of implementing

Over 91% of physicians have broadband or higher connections in their practices and 40% of 555 practices from the mailed survey and 35% of 3178 physicians have EHRs.

Major Findings:

- Physician access to hospital EHRs is common
- Patient access to their personal health information is limited
- Connectivity across state borders is critical for providers in several healthcare organizations
- e-prescribing is not a common practice
- HIE is occurring in selected communities
- Solo and smaller physicians practices and smaller hospitals may be underrepresented in this survey because they have no plans for EHRs

Conclusions:

- Hospices are the most wired of all provider groups
- Rural physicians are as wired as their urban colleagues
- Small practices are less wired than larger ones
- Certain regions of the state seem to have a wired synergy beginning
- Broadband is widely available to all providers

To review the entire report, visit the e-health website at <http://ehealth.ky.gov>.

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 3, 2008 from 3:00 – 4:30 PM at the Capitol Annex, Room 129.

Submitted by Donna Veno
August 12, 2008